

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 L-03 FRB-03 OMB-01 ITC-01 SP-02

AGRE-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08 INR-10

LAB-04 NSAE-00 OIC-02 SIL-01 STR-07 TRSE-00

CEA-01 SS-15 AF-10 ARA-10 EA-10 EUR-12 NEA-10

SSO-00 INRE-00 ICAE-00 NSCE-00 /130 W

-----052928 071931Z /47

O 071911Z JUL 78

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1778

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

AMEMBASSY BONN

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E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: EGEN, UN, ECOSOC

SUBJECT: UNITED NATIONS COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE (COW):

DISCUSSION IN VINCI GROUP, FRIDAY JULY 7.

REF: STATE 161676

1. AT INITIATIVE OF ITALIAN DELEGATION, A MEETING OF THE VINCI GROUP (ECOSOC) WAS HELD AT 10 A.M. ON FRIDAY, JULY 7. FOCAL POINT OF DISCUSSION WAS US "PAPER" ON COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE WHICH ALL THOSE PRESENT HAD RECEIVED IN CAPITALS OR FROM USUN.

2. FRG, SPEAKING FOR THE EC, REPEATED THE RESERVATIONS EXPRESSED AT BONN AND NEW YORK BY GERMAN OFFICIALS. NO OTHER COMMUNITY MEMBER SPOKE. JAPANESE INDICATED THEIR INTENTIONS TO INCLUDE THEIR PROPOSALS IN ECOSOC GENERAL DEBATE SPEECH ON MONDAY AND INDICATED TO US THAT THEY SAW NO DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THEIR APPROACH AND OURS. SWEDES ALSO REFERRED TO THEIR PROPOSAL MADE ON JULY 6

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IN ECOSOC, WHICH FORESEES THE COW NARROWING DOWN BROAD TOPICS TO CORE ISSUES AND PROVIDING GUIDELINES FOR ACTION DIRECTED TOWARDS THE DIFFERENT ORGANIZATIONS OF THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM. (SWEDES ALSO NOTED THAT "THE PROCESS OF IDENTIFYING CRUCIAL ISSUES AND WORKING OUT GUIDELINES MIGHT OF COURSE REQUIRE THE COMMITTEE TO RETURN TO THE SAME SUBJECT AT MORE THAN ONE MEETING

ALTHOUGH NOT NECESSARILY CONSECUTIVELY.")

3. THE ONLY OTHER DELEGATIONS EXPRESSING THEIR VIEWS ON THE U.S. PROPOSALS WAS CANADA, SWITZERLAND AND NEW ZEALAND, ALL OF WHICH WERE POSITIVE.

4. IN A SUBSEQUENT PRIVATE DISCUSSION, U.K. REP INDICATED TO DELOFF THAT BRITISH PROBLEM DERIVED ESSENTIALLY FROM THE FOLLOWING SENTENCE IN U.S. PROPOSAL AS PRESENTED IN REFTEL, PARA 8(B) LAST SENTENCE, "THE NEXT SUBSEQUENT SESSION WOULD ASSESS THE RESULTS OF ANY STUDY AND/OR RECONSIDERATION ON THE PART OF MEMBER COUNTRIES." U.K. SAW THIS AS A "SCHOOLROOM" SITUATION WHEREIN EACH "PUPIL" WOULD BE CRITICIZED ON HIS "HOMEWORK". THEY INDICATED THAT WHATEVER THE GERMANS' PROBLEM WAS, THIS WAS THE EXTENT OF THEIR OWN CONCERN. DELEGATION BELIEVES IT CAN MEET U.K. PROBLEM WITH MINOR TEXTUAL REVISIONS IN AMBASSADOR YOUNG'S SPEECH AND IN ANY TEXT WE MAY EVENTUALLY PRODUCE FOR DISCUSSION WITH THE G-77.

5. IT IS CLEAR THAT, SWEDISH AND JAPANESE EFFORTS NOTWITHSTANDING, U.S. PROPOSAL IS AT CENTER OF ATTENTION. NO OTHER ALTERNATIVES HAVE BEEN PRESENTED, OR DISCUSSED. AS MIGHT BE EXPECTED, 77 HAVE ALSO GOTTEN WORD OF A "U.S. PAPER", AND, DESPITE OUR DISCLAIMERS, ARE CLEARLY EXPECTING SOMETHING FROM US. THE DEGREE TO WHICH FRG LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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OPPOSITION IS SHARED BY OTHERS IN THE COMMUNITY (GIVEN VIEWS EXPRESSED BY DUTCH, IRISH, LUXEMBOURGEOIS, U.K. AND DANES) IS ALSO PROBLEMATIC. THE GERMANS ARE ALSO AWARE (THROUGH DISCUSSION BETWEEN AMBASSADORS YOUNG AND VON WECHMAR) OF THE PANAMA MEETING WITH MANLEY AND PEREZ AND OF PRESIDENT CARTER'S DETERMINATION TO GET NORTH-SOUTH DIALOGUE MOVING.

6. DELEGATION BELIEVES IT IS THEREFORE IMPERATIVE THAT WE PROCEED WITH OUR PROPOSAL, MAKING WHATEVER ADJUSTMENTS NECESSARY TO MEET PROBLEMS SUCH AS THOSE OF U.K. IN THIS SECENARIO, AMBASSADOR YOUNG'S SPEECH WILL REMAIN THE "KICKOFF" FOR DISCUSSIONS WITH THE 77.

7. THERE WILL BE ANOTHER MEETING OF THE VINCI GROUP ON THE AFTERNOON OF MONDAY, JULY 10.

NOTE: ON PARA 1, LINE 2 CHANGE SHOULD READ: VINCI GROUP (ECONOMIC) INSTEAD OF (ECOSOC). VANDEN HEUVEL

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